

impossible, we think, for finite beings, as the framers of our constitution were, to penetrate the dark mists of futurity and suvey at a single glance, all the obstacles, there concealed, to the advancement of the public weal. Fully aware of this, they wisely lodged the power of redressing evil as it occurred, in the hands of those, to whom in after times, the people might entrust the management of their concerns. That the existence among us of that species of population, to the removal of which, the efforts of this society are directed, is an evil and a national evil, none we presume, at this enlightened day, are disposed to doubt; 'for it is a maxim equally approved in philosophy and practice that the existence of distinct and seperate casts and clases, forming exception to the general system of policy adopted to the community, is an inherent vice in the composition of society, pregnant with evil consequences, both moral and political, and demanding the utmost exertion of human energy, and foresight to remedy or remove it.'

If then, as is contended, and we think cannot be denied, the existence among us of free negroes, be an evil, one which by its present or prespective influence, may tend to embarass the wholesome operations of this government, the congress of the United States, to which the guardianship of our interests is committed, have as full power under the constitution, and are as imperatively bound to remove it, as they can have to enter into any other regulation connected with the general welfare. Actuated by impressions like these we cannot but regret the manifestation of a disposition on the part of some of our sister states, to oppose a measure not only in our opinion constitutional, but highly expedient and loudly demanded by the present exigencies of the community.

Of the resolution of the State of Mississippi, "declaring the Tariff of 1828, to be unconstitutional and oppressive, and that it should be resisted by all constitutional means," we forbear to speak further than to give it as our decided conviction, that the power of congress to impose prohibitory duties for certain purposes, is clearely recognized by the constitution and its exercise sanctioned by the first congress, who, it is fair to infer, from their association with the framers of that instrument, were governed in their decision not only by its letter but its spirit also. The expediency of the tariff of 1828, is a subject we are disposed to leave, where it properly belongs, with the Congress of the United States. While at the same time we are free to declare that a constitutional opposition by those who may feel them-